

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29316 / S1286

The proposed legislation would make the necessary changes for the State of Idaho to continue regulating psychological service extenders. The current authorizing language that the Board of Psychological Examiners has relied upon to regulate service extenders for close to thirty years has recently been determined to be insufficient. Service extenders provide essential psychological services to patients under the supervision of licensed Idaho psychologists or by those persons who hold a doctoral degree in psychology and who are employed by a duly chartered educational institution. These services can range from the administration of psychological tests to the delivery of therapy. Service extenders have a wide variety of education, training and experience. It is important for the State of Idaho to continue regulating service extenders for the purpose of protecting the health and safety of the public by maintaining the state's power to track and discipline bad actors. In addition, the service extender permits are a critical component in the process to pay service extenders via health insurance, as well as train the next generation of Idaho psychologists.

FISCAL NOTE

There would be no fiscal impact to the General Fund because the proposed legislation would not require any new regulatory responsibilities or actions by the state. Costs would continue to be covered by permit fees paid by the applicants.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).